

Amendments To The Claims:

1. **(Cancelled)**
2. **(Previously Presented)** Method according to claim 10, in which the covering composition is produced by mixing a multiple-component system.
3. **(Previously Presented)** Method according to claim 2, in which the covering composition is produced by mixing a two-component system.
4. **(Cancelled)**
5. **(Previously Presented)** Method according to claim 2, wherein the covering composition immediately after mixing has a rheological flow-on behaviour when applied in the mouth and within one second after application has such a stability that the applied composition does not run down or spread.
6. **(Previously Presented)** Method according to claim 2, wherein the cross-linking begins within 20 seconds after mixing the components and is so far advanced within 40 seconds after mixing the components that the composition is solidified as rubber-elastic.
7. **(Previously Presented)** Method according to claim 2, wherein the cross-linking begins within 10 seconds after mixing the components and which is so far advanced within 20 seconds after mixing the components that the composition is solidified as rubber- elastic.
8. **(Previously Presented)** Method according to claim 2, wherein the cross-linking begins within 5 seconds after mixing the components and is so far advanced within 10 seconds after mixing the components that the composition is solidified as rubber-elastic.
9. **(Previously Presented)** Method according to claim 10, wherein the cross-linked covering composition can be easily removed in one piece from the mouth without leaving any trace.
10. **(Currently Amended)** Method for isolating tooth material to be treated with liquid dental

treatment means to protect the surrounding gingiva from the liquid dental treatment means, comprising the steps of:

providing a covering composition which cross-links in a self-curing manner at an ambient temperature in the mouth interior on the gingiva and produces an elastomeric material which adheres to the gingiva, wherein the covering composition is selected from the group consisting of A-silicones, C-silicones or polyethers, ~~and~~;

applying the covering composition in a flowable state onto the gingiva around, below and but not onto the tooth material to be treated, the covering composition after cross-linking in a self-curing manner at ambient temperature adhering to the gingival, and

applying a liquid dental treatment to the tooth material to be treated.

11. **(Original)** Method according to claim 10 in which the area of application is dried before the application of the covering composition.

12. **(Previously Presented)** Method according to claim 10, in which the components are mixed with one another before and/or during the application of the covering composition.

13-15. **(Cancelled)**

16. **(Previously Presented)** Method according to claim 10, further comprising applying the covering composition to teeth adjacent to the tooth material to be treated.

17. **(Currently Amended)** Method for protecting gingiva from a liquid dental treatment means applied to tooth material adjacent to the gingiva comprising the steps of:

applying a covering composition to gingiva, the covering composition cross-linking in a self-curing manner at an ambient temperature in the mouth to produce an elastomeric material that adheres to the gingiva, the elastomeric material protecting the gingiva from a liquid dental treatment means applied to tooth material adjacent to the gingiva, the covering

composition being applied to the gingiva in a flowable state, the covering composition being selected from the group consisting of A-silicones, C-silicones, or polyethers, and

applying a liquid dental treatment to the tooth material.

18. (Cancelled).